

24th LDCF/SCCF Council Meeting
June 26, 2018
Da Nang, Viet Nam

Agenda Item 10

**FY19 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR THE INDEPENDENT EVALUATION
OFFICE OF THE GEF UNDER THE LDCF AND SCCF**

(Prepared by the Independent Evaluation Office of the GEF)

Recommended Council Decision

The Council, having reviewed document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.24/ME/02, *FY19 Work Program and Budget for the Independent Evaluation Office of the GEF under LDCF/SCCF*, approves an annual budget of \$52,000 for the Independent Evaluation Office for fiscal year 2019 for the proposed work program:

- a) \$26,000 from the LDCF and
- b) \$26,000 from the SCCF.

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INTRODUCTION

1. During FY18 the IEO completed the activities of the annual work program approved by the LDCF/SCCF Council at the 22nd Council meeting in May 2017. The IEO prepared the LDCF/SCCF Annual Evaluation Report (AER) 2017 and included LDCF/SCCF in OPS6.
2. At the 18th LDCF/SCCF Council meeting the IEO introduced a multiannual budget for IEO's FY16-19 work program for LDCF/SCCF. This is in line with the practice for the GEF Trust Fund and accommodates multi-year evaluations such as OPS6 and knowledge sharing activities after the completion of evaluations. As the Funds mature the number of evaluations that are multi-year by nature will grow, while the budget is approved on an annual basis. Moving from a year-by-year work program to a four-year work program is in support of the development of a longer-term evaluation vision towards the Funds.
3. While the IEO continues to provide quality evaluations on the performance and results of the LDCF and SCCF for accountability purposes, the FY16-19 LDCF/SCCF work program is organized around the two strategic programming pillars as laid out in the *2014-2018 GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the LDCF and SCCF*: integrating climate change adaptation into relevant policies, plans, programs and decision-making processes, and expanding synergies with other GEF focal areas and IAPs. The IEO has delivered evaluative evidence and lessons to help refine the strategic priorities contained in the GEF programming strategy on adaptation.
4. In May 2017, the LDCF/SCCF Council approved a budget for the IEO of \$73,000 for FY18. The IEO estimates that the budget will be fully used by the end of the fiscal year. This document presents a progress report on the activities completed by the IEO in FY18 and a work program and a budget for activities proposed for FY19.

PROGRESS REPORT AND FOUR-YEAR WORK PROGRAM

Annual Evaluation Report

5. The IEO has prepared the LDCF/SCCF Annual Evaluation Report 2017 (AER) to report on the performance of the LDCF and SCCF. It presents an assessment of the terminal evaluations of 19 completed LDCF and SCCF projects that were submitted to the IEO during the 2017 calendar year. This is the largest number of terminal evaluations since our annual analysis started five years ago. The AER 2017 covers 11 LDCF and 8 SCCF projects and reports on project outcomes and sustainability, and the quality of project monitoring and evaluation (M&E). The AER 2017 also reports on innovative approaches, gender considerations in these projects, and includes a synthesis of lesson learned from the 2017 cohort of completed projects. Please see GEF/LDCF.SCCF.24/ME/01.
6. The AER also presents management action records to track adoption of the LDCF/SCCF Council's decisions across the GEF partnership. The two LDCF/SCCF Council decisions taken at

the June 2016 meeting on the Program Evaluation of the LDCF and the May 2017 meeting on the Program Evaluation of SCCF are tracked in the AER 2017.

7. As the LDCF/SCCF portfolio matures the submission of an increasing number of terminal evaluations¹ will permit more detailed assessment of the portfolio's performance, including project results, processes that may affect project results, M&E arrangements, gender considerations and innovative approaches. In FY19 the AER 2018 will assess the terminal evaluations that are submitted to the IEO during the 2018 calendar year. The IEO will also conduct a special study of the 48 terminal evaluations reported on in the first five AERs (2013-2017). Of the 48 completed projects 27 are funded by LDCF and 21 are funded by SCCF. The assessment will be done in line with the LDCF/SCCF strategic programming pillars using information from mid-term reviews and other relevant project documents. The IEO will report on the findings in the AER 2018.

Fund Program Evaluations

8. The IEO conducted the program evaluation of the SCCF² during FY17 as part of the Four-Year Work Program of the IEO approved by the LDCF/SCCF Council at its 18th meeting in June 2015. During FY18 the findings and recommendations of the program evaluation were disseminated through a graphically edited report and a four-page brief shared with SCCF stakeholders and published on the IEO website. The findings and recommendations were included in the Report of the GEF to the Twenty-third Session of the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC. Findings were also shared through blog posts on Earth-Eval, an online community of practice hosted by the IEO. Findings and lessons learned on adaptation metrics and assessing progress were also shared at the second Global Adaptation Network forum meeting, which took place in Abu Dhabi in April 2018. Further dissemination of findings will take place at the Adaptation Futures conference 2018, that will take place in Cape Town in June 2018.

Adaptation in the Sixth Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF (OPS6)

9. The IEO has synthesized conclusions and evaluative evidence on adaptation to climate change in the Sixth Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF (OPS6) through LDCF/SCCF evaluations, GEF-6 evaluations, and OPS6 special studies and evaluations. OPS6 has brought in evaluative evidence from the LDCF/SCCF AERs completed since OPS5 and the Program Evaluations of the LDCF and SCCF. During GEF-6, adaptation to climate change was considered a focal area and included in IEO's evaluations of the GEF Trust Fund. Many of these evaluations have included LDCF/SCCF projects and/or covered projects that include adaptation to climate change activities, such as, the Evaluation of Multiple Benefits of GEF Support and the Annual Performance Report 2015. OPS6 special studies and evaluations also covered LDCF/SCCF financed activities and/or adaptation to climate change, including the Climate Change Focal Area Study, the Land Degradation Focal Area Study, the Evaluation of Gender Mainstreaming in

¹ It is estimated that the number of terminal evaluations submitted will grow at an increasing rate.

² IEO, [Program Evaluation of the Special Climate Change Evaluation](#), May 2017. LDCF/SCCF Council Document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.22/ME/02.

the GEF, and evaluations and reviews like the Evaluation of GEF's Engagement with the Private Sector, Review of the Integrated Approach Pilot Programs, and performance reviews on project-level accomplishments, results-based management, and the project cycle. The final report of OPS6, *The GEF in the Changing Environmental Finance Landscape* and related evaluations are available on the IEO website: <http://www.gefio.org/ops/ops-6>.

Policy and Guidance

10. The GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Policy requires all full-size projects (medium-size projects are encouraged) to complete a terminal evaluation upon the completion of their implementation. Terminal evaluations are the responsibility of GEF Partner Agencies and recipients of GEF grants. The IEO has issued revised guidelines for GEF Agencies and evaluators for conducting terminal evaluation for full-size projects.³ The revised guidelines apply to LDCF/SCCF projects and programs and provide information on roles and responsibilities, and assessment of project results, monitoring and evaluation systems, and implementation.

11. The 2010 Monitoring and Evaluation Policy is being reviewed and updated given the evolving nature of the GEF partnership—notably including the expansion of the number of GEF Agencies. The IEO aims to present a revised Policy to the November 2018 Council meeting. Once the revised Policy has been adopted, the *Guidance Document: Monitoring and Evaluation in the LDCF/SCCF* (2014)⁴ will be updated. This guidance document discusses the fundamentals of M&E practices within the context of the Funds' M&E policies and requirements, and provides guidance to apply the M&E Policy to LDCF/SCCF activities in accordance with GEF policies and practices. This work is planned for FY19.

MULTIANNUAL EVALUATION BUDGET

12. The IEO introduced the first multiannual budget for IEO's FY16-19 work program for LDCF/SCCF in June 2015. Table 1 presents the estimated budget by activity and fiscal year for a total of \$320,000 for FY16-FY19. The amounts shown for the activities cover the cost of a Senior Evaluation Officer from the IEO to manage and contribute to the activities, and the cost of other IEO staff to carry out the activities.

13. The LDCF/SCCF Council approved a budget for the IEO of \$73,000 for FY18 at its 22nd meeting in May 2017. The IEO estimates that the budget will be fully used by the end of FY18. The IEO requests the LDCF\SCCF Council's approval for the proposed annual budget of \$52,000 for FY19 to cover the cost of the activities presented above.

³ <http://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/ieo/evaluations/files/gef-guidelines-te-fsp-2017.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/ieo/evaluations/gef-me-ldcf-sccf-2014.pdf>

Table 1: Multiannual Budget of the Independent Evaluation Office of the GEF (thousands \$)

Evaluation Activity	FY16 Actuals	FY17 Actuals	FY18 Approved Budget	FY18 Estimated Expenses	FY19 Requested Budget	Total
LDCF						
Annual Evaluation Report	14	16	18	18	20	68
LDCF Evaluation	55	10	0	0	0	65
Adaptation in OPS6	0	10	13	13	2	25
Policy and Guidance	0	0	3	3	4	7
Sub-Total (A)	69	36	34	34	26	165
SCCF						
Annual Evaluation Report	14	16	18	18	20	68
SCCF Evaluation	0	50	5	5	0	55
Adaptation in OPS6	0	10	13	13	2	25
Policy and Guidance	0	0	3	3	4	7
Sub-Total (B)	14	76	39	39	26	155
Total (A+B)	83	112	73	73	52	320